

## **Department of Business Regulation**

233 Richmond Street Providence, RI 02903

## **Insurance Bulletin Number 2004-12**

## CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR INSURANCE PRODUCERS WHO WERE FORMERLY EXEMPT PURSUANT TO R.I. GEN. LAWS §27-3.2-3(4)

Effective July 3, 2004, R.I. Gen. Laws § 27-3.2-3(4) was amended to change the exemption related to continuing education for Producers. The purpose of this Bulletin is to establish a phase-in period for compliance with continuing education requirements for Producers who no longer qualify for the exemption due to this amendment.

Prior to July 3, 2004, Producers who were at least age 60 at the time of renewal and had continuously held a valid Producer license for at least twenty (20) years were not required to fulfill the continuing education requirements mandated by R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 27-3.2. Effective July 3, 2004, pursuant to Rhode Island Public Law 04-298, the continuing education exemption applies only to Producers who are at least age 55 at the time of renewal and have continuously held a valid Producer license for at least twenty-five (25) years. As a result of this amendment certain Producers who previously qualified for an exemption from continuing education requirements prior to July 3, 2004 may no longer qualify for an exemption under the amended provision. The amended law **does not** include a provision to "grandfather" those Producers who were formerly exempt from the continuing education requirements under the law.

Formerly Exempt Producers from the continuing education requirements of R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 27-3.2 prior to the amendment described above who no longer qualify for the exemption under the amended provisions ("Formerly Exempt Producers") should note the following:

- Formerly Exempt Producers whose licenses expire on March 31, 2005 should complete four (4) approved continuing education course credits prior to renewal of their Producer license.
- Formerly Exempt Producers whose licenses expire on June 30, 2005 should complete eight (8) approved continuing education course credits prior to renewal of their Producer license.
- Formerly Exempt Producers whose licenses expire on September 30, 2005 should complete twelve (12) approved continuing education course credits prior to renewal of their Producer license.

• Formerly Exempt Producers whose licenses expire on December 31, 2005 should complete fifteen (15) approved continuing education course credits prior to renewal of their Producer license.

The above phase-in schedule **DOES NOT** apply to Producers who were not exempt from continuing education requirements prior to the amendment included in Rhode Island Public Law 04-298. All such Producers must continue to fulfill continuing education requirements in accordance with the provisions of R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 27-3.2 as they did prior to the amendment. Producers who are exempt from the continuing education requirements of R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 27-3.2 as amended must assert the exemption on their renewal form filed with the Insurance Division.

Marilyn Shannon McConaghy Director, Department of Business Regulation

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